Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 02 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Sunday 03 Mar 2024

Forecast Issued on Saturday 02 Mar 2024 at 02:03

Confidence: Generally good but there is some uncertainty in day-to-day rain or snow details so please keep updated with the forecast.

Headline for Saturday 02 Mar 2024: Brightening up in morning, wintry showers in afternoon, mainly east. Cold, light winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 02 Mar 2024

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG					
Fog	Cloudy	Sunny intervals	Light snow	Light snow	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
40%	20%	20%	60%	60%	30%

Forecast for Saturday 02 Mar 2024

Weather: Outbreaks of sleet or snow with rain in the valleys overnight, clearing early in the morning. A cloudy start then brightening up through the morning for a time. Becoming cloudy again in the afternoon with outbreaks of sleet or snow arriving from the southeast, falling as rain below about 300m. This mainly affecting eastern fells with some uncertainties in its westward progress.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% at first then becoming 70% during the morning, falling to 40% in the afternoon with best chance in the west.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud and fog above 300m at first then lifting and breaking up off the summits during the morning. Occasional cloud developing again in the afternoon, mainly above 600m and over eastern fells. Away from low cloud, visibility generally good but poor at times in showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 02 Mar 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	9/10 E	12/14 E	14/18 E	16/20 E	17/21 NE	17/21 E	15/19 SE
600	7/8 E	7/9 E	10/13 E	12/16 E	13/18 NE	11/15 E	13/18 SE
300	3/6 E	2/8 E	4/12 E	6/14 E	5/15 NE	4/13 SE	5/14 SE
Valley	3/5 NE	3/8 NE	6/12 NE	8/14 NE	8/17 NE	7/16 E	5/14 E

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-6	-3/-9	-2/-8	-2/-8	-2/-8	-2/-8	-2/-9
600	-1/-4	-1/-4	-0/-5	1/-4	0/-5	-0/-5	-1/-6
300	-1/-3	2/0	2/0	3/0	2/-0	1/-1	1/-1
Valley	2/1	4/2	5/3	6/3	5/2	4/1	4/2
Freezing Level*	200m	400m	500m	600m	700m	500m	600m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A mixed weather day so a variety of winter skills and kit may be called upon if heading into the fells. Details may change nearer the time so keep up to date with the forecast.

Forecast for Sunday 03 Mar 2024

Weather: Clear spells lengthening overnight with a frost and patches of freezing fog developing. These will slowly clear then a mainly dry and bright day with just a small chance of a light shower, wintry above 400m.

Maximum wind: Southerly 10 to 15mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80%.

Low cloud and visibility: Mainly good visibility. Patchy low cloud in the valleys at first, slowly rising up the slopes and also affecting the summits in any showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** 0C rising to 7 or 8C.
At 800m: Minus 3C rising to Minus 1C.
Freezing level: Early frost then freezing level rising to 600m during daytime.

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 1 March 2024 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:15 Full report: For the second day running, this report comes with a health warning in that, at the time of writing, showers are forecast and, indeed, it is currently raining in the valley this afternoon. This will be falling as snow at altitude so walkers out on the high fells on Saturday should expect, and be prepared to encounter, more snow than experienced and described today. There's a fresh, very light covering of hail/snow/spindrift that's settled above 500m. Currently it's barely deep enough to cover the sole of your boot, although was being redistributed on the 30-40mph NE winds. Mostly, this has settled on what was bare ground. However above 800m in isolated sheltered spots and hollows and especially above 900m on steep east and north facing aspects the fresh snow can lie above old, harder snow and some ice. This only represents a hazard to walkers where it can hide some old compacted snow and ice on popular routes above 800m and also on the exits to both Striding and especially Swirral Edges. Otherwise, little ice was experienced today except where puddles had frozen and, again, where fresh snow was already being compacted on some popular routes. Despite today being the first day of meteorological Spring, the summit temperature around midday was minus 3 degrees C with the windchill (what the temperature actually feels like) a chilling minus 15 degrees C, so full winter clothing (waterproofs – which double as windproofs - , extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment, including a torch, are all essential to safely, and enjoyably, roam the fells. Visibility in the cloud was down to c40m today and it is highly likely to be far less tomorrow especially when combined with deeper snow obscuring landmarks, low cloud and blowing spindrift so a map and compass together with the ability to use them and navigate competently in poor visibility are also essential. Owing to the likelihood of experiencing far more snow compared with today, walkers heading for high ground on Saturday are recommended to carry walking poles and microspikes. For those attempting steep and exposed routes above the snowline, such as the Helvellyn Edges, an ice axe and crampons (microspikes as a minimum) are strongly recommended/could well be essential. Goggles could be a sensible addition to your rucksack to lessen the sting of windblown hail/spindrift. Temperature: minus 3.3 C, Maximum wind speed 39.7 mph, Wind chill: minus 14.6 C, Average wind speed: 30.9 mph.

Issued at: 02:03 on Sat 02 Mar 2024

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